

Prescott
 Last Update
 9:53 AM MST
 Fair
 57°F
 N N/A MPH
 CURRENT CONDITIONS

The Daily Courier

Yavapai County's News and Information Center Since 1882

PRESCOTT NATIONAL FOREST
FIRE DANGER

HIGH

Search

search

[Real Estate](#) | [Great Grocery Buys](#) | [Coupons](#) | [Contact Us](#)


E.edition

click here

Publications

Daily Courier
 Prescott Valley Tribune
 Chino Valley Review
 Big Bug News
 Today's Real Estate
 Community Directory

Search CLASSIFIEDS

Across

Arizona & California
 More NEWSPAPERS
 added weekly.

Sections

Your Community
 Local News
 Sports
 Columnists
 Letters to the Editor
 The Scene
 Entertainment
 Features Sections
 - Business
 - Generations
 - Getting Out
 - Inside & Out
 - Modern Times
 - Pet Column
 - Primetime
 - Real Estate
 - Religion
 - Tri-City Life
 - Vitality
 Feedback
 Local Events
 Classifieds
 Classifieds Archive
 Write the Editor
 Stocks
 Editorial
 Obituaries
 Worship Directory
 Archives
 Guest Book
 Subscribe

Special Sections


[home](#) : [local news](#) : [local news](#)

Monday, November 06, 2006

10/22/2006 4:00:00 AM

[Email this article](#) • [Print this article](#)

Officials won't file charges in Billy the Kid grave case

By JOANNA DODDER

The Daily Courier

The Maricopa County Attorney's Office has decided not to prosecute people who dug up the bones of a man who claimed to be Billy the Kid.

Former Lincoln County, N.M., sheriff Tom Sullivan, former Capitan, N.M. mayor Steve Sederwall and others dug up the bones of John Miller and the remains of the man buried next to him at the state-owned Pioneers' Home Cemetery in Prescott in May 2005.

Maricopa County won't seek charges against anyone involved in the disinterment, Attorney's Office spokesman Bill Fitzgerald said Thursday evening.

"Based on the investigation submitted to us and our review of Arizona law, we have declined prosecution," he wrote in an e-mail. "It appears officials in charge of the facility gave permission and the people who were attempting to recover samples of the remains believed they had permission to do so."

While they still held the titles of sheriff and mayor back in 2003, Sullivan and Sederwall decided that they were going to try to prove whether Billy the Kid really is the one who is buried at Fort Sumner, N.M., and whether he really died at the hands of Lincoln County Sheriff Pat Garrett in 1881.

The men said they wanted to dig up the outlaw's body at Fort Sumner, the body of Billy's mother in Silver City, N.M., and the bodies of some men who claimed to be Billy, including Miller.

So far, they've dug up only Miller and his neighbor in death. Courts have prevented any digging in New Mexico. The men say they are comparing Miller's DNA with DNA they say they recovered from blood stains on a bench where they believe Billy bled after Garrett shot him in Fort Sumner.

Miller and the man laid to rest in the neighboring grave, William Hudspeth, were residents of the state-run Arizona Pioneers' Home for elderly Arizonans when they died in 1937. Pioneers' Home officials don't know of any surviving relatives of the two men.

Sullivan previously said they dug up both bodies because the graves were unmarked and they wanted to make sure they had the right one.

They had permission to exhume the bodies from a former Pioneers' Home director who was about to retire at the time. The New Mexico men later returned the bones, and Pioneers' Home officials re-interred them in August. The former director told police that she allowed the disinterment because the state had an interest in knowing who was buried at the cemetery.

Current Pioneers' Home Director Gary Olson said if such a request ever comes his way, he will direct it to the governor's office.

SOUTHWEST
MANUFACTURED HOMES
 "Award Winning Service"
 Serving All of
 Northern Arizona

Koolman Realty, L.L.C.

(Independent surveys by Monitor Surveys of America)

LIBERTY
 Dana Moore's


Prescott Newspapers
Events

Special Sections
Advertising Calendar

Smart Shopper

Today's Real Estate

Tri-City Business News

Coupon Zipper

Sun Shopper

2006-2007
BOOK OF LISTS



CLICK HERE

Contact Us

PhotoGallery

PNI Advertising Rates

WNI Advertising Rates

Our Other Publications

The New Mexico men have told Olson that the DNA they think came from Hudspeth doesn't match the DNA from the old bench. However, Olson hasn't heard anything about the Miller bones.

Back in August, Sullivan refused to talk about the Miller findings. He and Sederwall didn't return phone calls Friday afternoon.

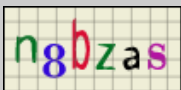
Contact the reporter at jdodder@prescottaz.com

Article Comment Submission Form

Please feel free to submit your comments.

Article comments are not posted immediately to the website. Each submission must be approved by the Web site editor, who may edit content for appropriateness.

Note: All information on this form is required. Your telephone number is for our use only, and will not be attached to your comment.

Name:	<input type="text"/>
Telephone:	<input type="text"/>
E-mail:	<input type="text"/>
Passcode:	<p>This form will not send your comment unless you copy exactly the passcode seen below into the text field. This is an anti-spam device to help reduce the automated email spam coming through this form.</p> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;">  <div style="margin-left: 10px;"> <p style="color: red;">Please copy the passcode exactly - it is case sensitive.</p> <input type="text"/> </div> </div>
Message:	<input style="height: 80px;" type="text"/>
<input type="button" value="Submit"/> <input type="button" value="Clear Form"/>	

Do you want to advertise where YOUR customers are?



OK

Cancel



[Back To Prescott Newspapers, Inc. Home Page](#)

All original content copyright © 2006, Prescott Newspapers Inc. and may not be reprinted without permission. Prescott Newspapers Online is a service of Prescott Newspapers Inc. Questions or comments should be addressed to webmaster@prescottaz.com. Prescott Newspapers Online is a proud publication of Western Newspapers Inc. All Rights Reserved.

To view our Privacy Policy [Click Here](#).